

Richard R. Wright

Savannah, Ga.

MR. WRIGHT is president of the Georgia State College, president of the Georgia Colored Fair Association, president of the Georgia Agricultural and Industrial Association, and president of the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools.



R. R. Wright

When Gen. O. O. Howard addressed the colored people of Atlanta, Ga., on one occasion, at the conclusion of his address he asked, "What message shall I take back to the people in the North with me for you?" a little black boy arose in his place and sang out in a clear and determined voice, "Tell them, sir, we are rising." This boy was Richard Robert Wright, and his answer was prophetic for his race and for himself.

He was born ten years before the close of the war, and was a slave of slave parents. He worked by day and studied by night until he entered Atlanta University, graduating with the first collegiate class, in 1876. He later studied at Harvard, Cornell, and the University of Chicago, and traveled abroad.

In 1876, he started a school in Cuthbert, Ga., which later became the Howard Normal School; in 1880, he organized the first colored public high school in Georgia, at Augusta, and since 1891 has been president of the Georgia State Industrial College. He was president for many years of the Georgia State Colored Teachers' Association, which he organized in 1879. He is a trustee of Atlanta University.

For twenty years he was editor of a newspaper, first the *Journal of Progress*, Cuthbert, Ga., later the *Augusta Sentinel*. He was a delegate to four national Republican conventions. He declined the position of minister to Liberia. During the Spanish-American War he was appointed by President McKinley paymaster of the United States volunteers, with rank of major. He organized the Colored Farmers' Conference in 1898, and has organized three state fairs. He is now endeavoring to organize an exposition to show the progress of the Negro race in 1913, the semi-centennial of the American Negro's emancipation.

Richard R. Wright, Jr., Ph.D., A.M.

Philadelphia, Pa.

MR. WRIGHT is editor of the *Christian Recorder*, Philadelphia, a sociologist, and a representative of the younger generation of Negroes who are of educated parents, and who have not known slavery.



R. R. Wright, Jr.

He was born in Cuthbert, Ga., April 16, 1878. He was educated in the public schools of Augusta, Ga., and at the Georgia State College, of which his father is president, and from which he received the degree of A.B.; the University of Chicago, from which he received the A.M. and B.D.; the University of Pennsylvania which will confer upon him Ph.D. at its next commencement; the Universities of Berlin and Leipzig, Germany. He taught school in Georgia public schools, and was two years instructor in Hebrew in

Wilberforce University, Ohio. He is editor of the organ of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the oldest and largest religious periodical among the Negroes, and manager of the African Methodist Episcopal Book Concern.

He is interested in sociological study and experiment. He held the research fellowship in sociology for the University of Pennsylvania. He is secretary of the People's Savings Bank of Philadelphia, and is connected with various other associations for the uplift of his people. He has done sociological research for the United States Bureau of Labor, the Carnegie Institution, the University of Chicago, the Pittsburg Survey, the Committee of Twelve, and other institutions.

Some of his monographs are: "The Teaching of Jesus," a study in the theology of the gospels; "The Negroes of Xenia, Ohio; a Social Study," written for the *United States Bulletin of Labor*; "The Negroes of Philadelphia," written for the *Philadelphia Ledger*; "Self-Help in Negro Education," written for the Committee of Twelve for the Advancement of the Negro; "The Economic Condition of the Negro in the North," written for the *Southern Workman*; "The Negro and the Newspapers," leaflet of the *Star Center*; "The Negro Problem; What It Is, and What It Is Not," in *African Methodist Episcopal Review*.